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cont

3. (Amended) The device according to Claim 2, wherein said different alignment states of liquid crystal molecules have been formed by laser light irradiation of the liquid crystalline organic layer.

4. (Amended) The device according to Claim 2, wherein said different alignment states of liquid crystal molecules have been formed by voltage application to the liquid crystalline organic layer.

Remarks

The claims are 1-4, with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. Claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate some of the subject matter of the cancelled claims and, in particular, to set forth the presence of at least two organic layers including an organic luminescence layer. The remainder of the amendments to the claims are formal in nature. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Upon reviewing the present application, it became apparent that the specification required amendment in order to more closely conform with proper idiomatic English and to correct minor typographical errors. To that end, a substitute specification, a copy of which is attached, has been prepared. A copy of the marked-up original specification, indicating the changes that have been made, is also enclosed. No new matter has been added to the present application in the preparation of the substitute specification.

The Examiner objected to claims 1 and 5 due to certain informalities. Applicants have amended claim 1 to address the Examiner's concern and have cancelled claim 5. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yasuda (U.S. Patent No. 5,654,784). Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Yasuda. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

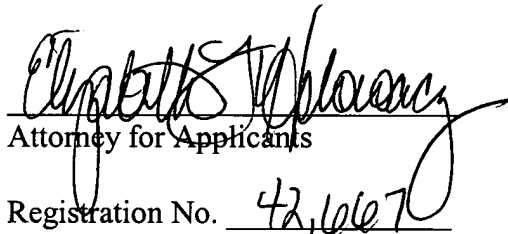
The present invention is directed to a liquid crystalline conductive device including an organic luminescence layer and an organic liquid crystalline layer having plural regions of different electroconductivity. These different electroconductivities are responsible for different luminescences, as luminescence is based on charges supplied from the electrodes through the plural regions having different electroconductivities of the organic liquid crystalline layer.

Yasuda fails to anticipate or render obvious the present invention. The Examiner points out that Yasuda discloses a conductive liquid crystal device including an organic layer, in addition to a liquid crystal layer having plural regions of different electroconductivities, resulting in different luminescences. However, the additional organic layer disclosed by Yasuda is an alignment layer. Such an alignment layer merely transmits light and is obviously different from the organic luminescence layer required in the present claims, which emits luminescences in and of itself by receiving charges supplied from the electrode. Clearly, Yasuda fails to disclose or suggest a key feature of the present invention, namely an organic luminescence layer. Accordingly, Yasuda does not anticipate or render obvious the present invention, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections premised upon it.

Wherefore, reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested as is the expeditious allowance of all pending claims in light of the foregoing amendments and remarks in support of patentability. If any issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' undersigned attorney to discuss matters further.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A conductive liquid crystal device[,] comprising:
a pair of oppositely disposed electrodes, and
at least two organic layers including a liquid crystalline organic layer and an organic luminescence layer disposed between the electrodes,
wherein the liquid crystalline organic layer has plural regions having
[mutually] different [electro-conductivities] electroconductivities, and
wherein the organic luminescence layer emits luminescences by receiving charges supplied by the plural regions of the liquid crystalline organic layer having different electroconductivities.

2. (Amended) [A] The device according to Claim 1, wherein said plural regions have different alignment states of liquid crystal molecules.

3. (Amended) [A] The device according to Claim 2, wherein said different alignment states of liquid crystal molecules have been formed by laser light irradiation of the liquid crystalline organic layer.

4. (Amended) [A] The device according to Claim 2, wherein said different alignment states of liquid crystal molecules have been formed by voltage application to the

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liquid crystalline organic layer.